lished regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

Suggestion for Regional Election Commission

2060. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestions were received from the public for setting up the Regional Election Commission; and

(b) if so, whether these suggestions were examined and any decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The suggestion regarding appointment of Regional Election Commissioners was made by the Joint Committee on Amendments to Election Law in its Report given in February, 1972. Government could not accept the proposal. In 1984, the Election Commission sought the approval of the Government for appointment of Regional Commissioners for election to the 8th Lok Sabha and Government could not agree to it. Apart from the above, no suggestion regarding the matter has been received by Government from any quarter direct.

Office of the Election Commission

2061. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make provision and effect amendments that the incumbents of the offices of the Election Commission including the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be eligible for appointment to any office whatsoever after they cease to hold office; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor particularly when such provision exists for the holders of the offices of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and Chairman and Members of the Union Public Service Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The makers of our Constitution did not themselves consider it necessary to impose a restriction of this nature in regard to the holders of the office of the Chief Election Commissioner. They may have taken into account the nature and functions of the various offices in determining the type of restrictions to be imposed. Government have availed of the services of some of the Chief Election Commissioners in important capacities after the expiry of their term and this does not seem to have adversely affected in any way the impartial and independent functioning of the various Chief Election Commissioners. Government do not therefore consider it necessary to impose a restriction of this nature by an amendment to the Constitution.

REDUCTION IN EXPORT OBLIGATION FOR SETTING UP OF INDUSTRIES IN BACKWARD AREAS BY MRTP AND FERA COMPANIES

2062. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reduction in export obligation for setting up of industries in backward areas by MRTP and FERA companies has been done at the instance of the World Bank; and

(b) what are the reasons for no export obligation for industries in backward areas?